

**MINUTES OF THE
EXECUTIVE OFFICES & CRIMINAL JUSTICE
JOINT APPROPRIATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE
ROOM W015, WEST OFFICE BUILDING, STATE CAPITOL COMPLEX
January 30, 2008**

Members Present: Sen. Michael G. Waddoups, Co-Chair
Rep. Eric K. Hutchings, Co-Chair
Sen. Scott D. McCoy
Rep. Douglas C. Aagard
Rep. Keith Grover
Rep. Christopher N. Herrod
Rep. Brad King
Rep. Curtis Oda

Members Excused: Rep. Jennifer M. Seelig

Members Absent: Sen. Curtis S. Bramble

Staff Present: Gary Ricks, Fiscal Analyst
Gary Syphus, Fiscal Analyst
Carrie Griffith, Committee Secretary

Note: A list of visitors and a copy of handouts are filed with the committee minutes.

Sen. Waddoups called the meeting to order at 2:19 p.m.

MOTION: Sen. McCoy moved to approve the minutes of the January 23, 2008 meeting. The motion passed unanimously with Rep. Herrod and Rep. Hutchings absent for the vote.

Rep. Julie Fisher, H.B. 222, “Expedited Parent-Time Enforcement”

Rep. Fisher provided a handout explaining the bill. She stated that because of the lack of funding, this project has been a pilot program in the 3rd District. She briefly described the success the program has seen and asked for monies to pass the bill statewide.

MOTION: Rep. Aagard moved to pass the bill out favorably. The motion passed unanimously with Rep. Herrod and Rep. Hutchings absent for the vote.

Commission on Criminal and Juvenile Justice (CCJJ)

Gary Ricks, Fiscal Analyst, briefly reviewed the Commission’s Budget Brief and the Analysts recommendations.

Robert Yeates, Executive Director, assisted by Dave Walsh, Deputy Director, addressed the Subcommittee and thanked them for their support.

An 8-page handout titled “CCJJ FY’09 Budget Report” was distributed. A power-point presentation detailing this information was shown and discussed below.

Scott Carver, Director Sentencing Commission, described the Utah Sentencing Commission and reviewed the following: the Mission, Guidelines, Indeterminate Sentencing, How the Sentencing Commission can help, Members of the Sentencing Commission, the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act 2002, and the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act 2002. Mr. Carver also promoted a penalty reference manual booklet, which was distributed to Subcommittee members.

Greg Garff, Juvenile Justice Manager Specialist shared with the Subcommittee some of the duties and responsibilities of the Utah Board of Juvenile Justice (UBJJ). He explained that in order to receive grant funds, each State must provide a State Advisory Group (SAG). He discussed how UBJJ fulfills this requirement and acts as Utah’s SAG. He further discussed Juvenile Justice Grants and the Grant process, commenting they have partnered with the University of Utah Criminal Justice Center to improve three things: (1) Statewide needs assessment; (2) Subgrant program evaluation; and (3) Availability of statewide data to the general public.

Matt Davis, University of Utah Criminal Justice Center, stated they have been working with UBJJ the past six years. He gave a brief overview of the UBJJ evaluation system showing some of the advantages they have provided for the Board. He explained various charts and graphs, specifically focusing on Tooele County—one of the areas most at risk.

Mr. Garff and Mr. Davis responded to questions raised by Subcommittee members.

Ned Searle, Director Office on Domestic and Sexual Violence, described domestic issues facing many people today. He explained that since 2003, 52% of Utah’s homicides were domestic violence related. He also discussed sexual assault and rape, stating these issues cross all socioeconomic classes. A short video titled “Tough Guise” was presented, which show that many boys and men who have rigid gender roles need help to change. The Commission has implemented a program called TUFF—“Teaching Utah’s Future Fathers. Mr. Searle asked for support of their Office to help improve response for sexual and domestic violence. He responded to questions and concerns raised by Subcommittee members.

Rep. Tim Cosgrove, assisted by Ron Gordon, Director Crime Victim Reparations (CVR), addressed the Subcommittee. He requested a \$1,857,900 appropriation, which is a shift from the Crime Victim Reparations Fund for FY 2009 and will come from the General Fund thereafter.

Mr. Gordon gave a brief overview of CVR, explaining how the Agency assists victims. He expressed desire that people know the Agency is available to help those who have been affected by violent crime.

Rep. Cosgrove and Mr. Gordon responded to questions raised by Subcommittee members.

Jennifer Hemingway, Commissioner CEASE DUI, gave a brief overview of how CEASE DUI works, the advantages of the system, and why the Commission is requesting monies to fund the program. Subcommittee members expressed support for the program. Ms. Hemingway responded to questions raised by Subcommittee members.

Corrections

Gary Syphus, Fiscal Analyst, gave a brief overview of the Budget Brief and the Analysts recommendations. He stated that a change should be made on p. 3, item #4 of the Budget Brief under "Legislative Action." It should read 'Jail Reimbursement,' not 'Jail Contract.'

Tom Patterson, Executive Director, noted that item #2 of the Budget Brief under "Legislative Action," the Governor is asking for an appropriation of \$7,446,200, which is slightly less than the Analysts recommendation of \$8,173,100. The difference between these two numbers is because the Department has removed 10 FTEs from their staff.

A handout was distributed to Subcommittee members describing FY 2009 budget priorities, which include: (1) Gunnison 192 Bed Facility Operational Funding; (2) Correctional Officer Recruitment and Retention; (3) Inmate Transportation Staff; (4) Private Parole Violator Center; (5) Sex Offender Treatment; (6) Medical Cost Shortfall; and (7) Jail Contracting & Reimbursement.

Referring to the above-mentioned handout, Mr. Patterson expressed concern about vacancies at the Draper site, stating such symptoms as burnout, stress, lack of balance in families, and other issues have arisen in their officers because of the overtime hours required.

A full-time recruiter has been hired to attract new officers to the Department. The Department is also creating a defined career ladder path to help officers know what their salary level will be at certain stages of their career. A handout describing the proposed career ladder was discussed in depth. Mr. Patterson was asked to bring a more detailed handout to the next meeting pertaining to salary step increases.

Mr. Patterson and Gary Sessions, Financial Director, responded to questions relating to salary step increases and staffing vacancies.

The Department was asked to return to the next meeting and finish their presentation. The Subcommittee was thanked by Mr. Patterson for acknowledging the needs of their Department.

MOTION: Rep. Aagard moved to adjourn the meeting.

Sen. Waddoups adjourned the meeting at 4:55 p.m.